

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

The Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication in the Office Action that claims 34 and 38-49 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Accordingly, independent claims 30, 51 and 52 have been amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 34, claims 35 and 46 have been amended to be consistent with the amendments to claim 30, and claim 34 has been cancelled, to place the application in condition for allowance.

Additionally, although the independent claims 30, 51 and 52 have been amended to place the application in condition for allowance, these amendments are not to be construed as an agreement with the rejections set forth in the Office Action. On the contrary, the Applicants disagree with the rejections set forth in the Office Action for at least the following reasons. The Applicants reserve their rights with respect to possible filing of continuing application(s) as to this subject matter.

In any event, as noted above, independent claims 30, 51 and 52 have been amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 35, and allowance of claims 30, 51 and 52 and all claims dependent therefrom is warranted for at least these reasons.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

/James Edward Ledbetter/

Date: December 16, 2011
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DC 7725-6128 194101v1